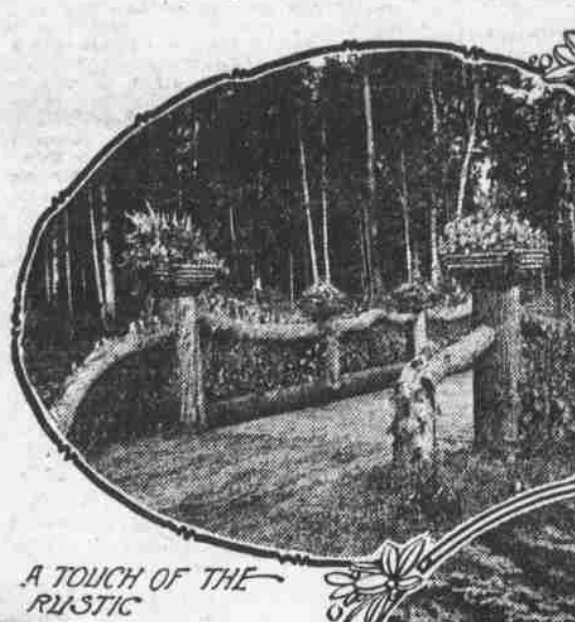


HEDGES, WALLS AND FENCES IN THE RURAL DISTRICTS

NUMBER of different factors have contributed directly or indirectly during the past few years to the appearance of American farms and rural estates as viewed from the highways and railroads. It is safe to say, however, that nothing has been more influential in this direction than the improved means introduced for marking the boundaries of fields and estates. Nor has the provision of better facilities in this respect been confined by any means to the wealthy folk who have taken up country life as a fad and have the means to indulge every caprice in that connection. The



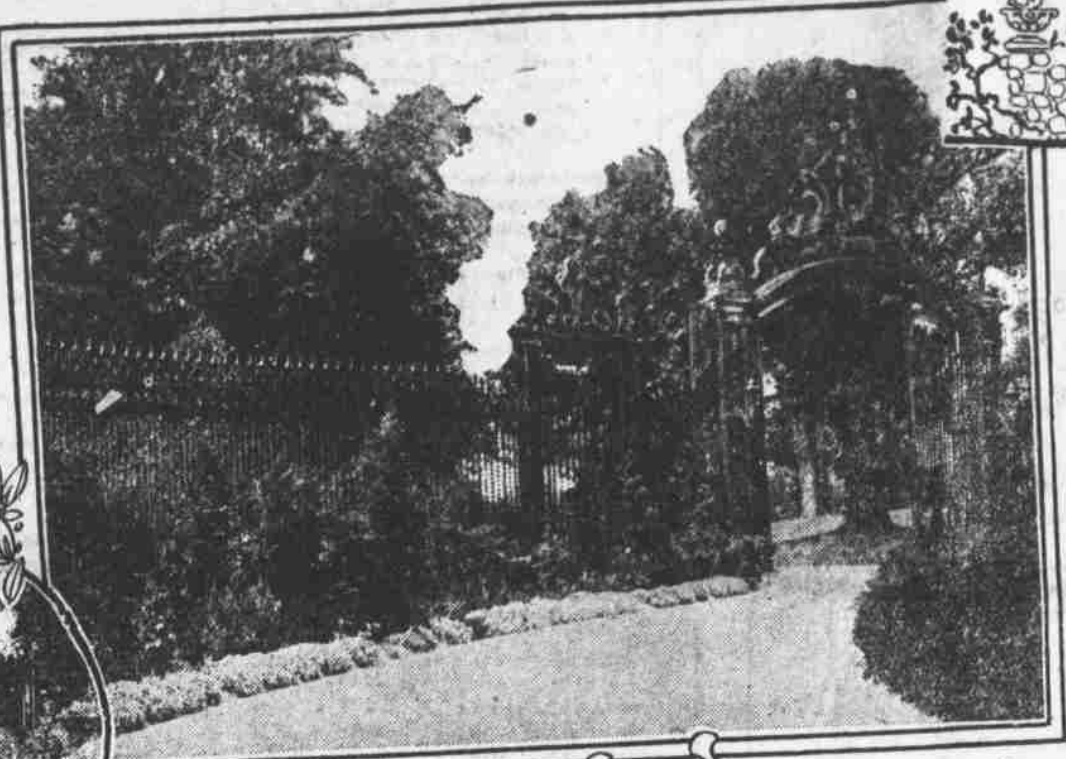
A TOUCH OF THE RUSTIC

common-sense, every-day farmer is fully holding up his end of the responsibility of providing a more orderly countryside. Until comparatively recent years in most sections of the United States and even yet in many of the more newly settled districts, farm fences were considered solely from the standpoint of utility. This was perfectly natural. A homesteader establishing an agricultural domain or a sheep and cattle ranch in territory recently opened to settlement has other things to think of beside providing ornamental boundary markers for his acreage. And anyway he has numerous heavy drains upon his pocketbook at such a time, and probably can ill afford to go in for anything fancy at such a juncture, even though he have the strongest inclinations to have everything about the place in apple-pie order.

These considerations explain how it has been that as each section of the United States has in turn been settled the pioneers have availed themselves of the most economical means of indicating boundary lines. The farmer wants to have his lines, as vouchered for by a surveyor, marked clearly, since that forestalls trouble later on and he wants to keep cattle, etc., out of his cultivated tracts, even if he has no stock of his own that he wishes to restrict to a given area. But in the old days no farmer felt that he could afford to lay out much money in fixing such limitations. Almost invariably the pioneer or early settler in any community was anxious to find material for his fences on the place. This will explain the almost universal use in our whole broad farm domain of the old familiar type of zig-zag rail fence. And just here be it noted that it is an admirable type of fence, too. Cheap to construct, if the rails be split from timber on the place; easy to keep in repair; substantial and enduring; it is calculated to yield excellent service. This is the type of fence that Abraham Lincoln constructed and its fame may go down to posterity through the rails which are treasured as precious relics because he split them.

The early settlers in stony districts, such as New England and certain sections of New York, including the famous Mohawk Valley, in many instances made their first fences of stone. In this respect they were in one sense ahead of their times because stone fences are constructed nowadays because of their artistic and picturesque attributes and are preferred by people to whom expense is no object. As a matter of fact a fence of loose stones was never a cheap form of construction. On the fact of things it has always been an extravagance as compared with the rail fence, but the consideration that leads to its selection in many localities was that the land had to be cleared of stones ere it could be tilled. It was no more trouble to pile the stones thus collected in the form of a fence than in a pile which would serve no good purpose and it took less time to thus arrange the stones along the boundary lines than to cart them to some distant dump. So the average farmer working such land killed two birds with one stone, so to speak, and set up fences that in most localities have endured to this day.

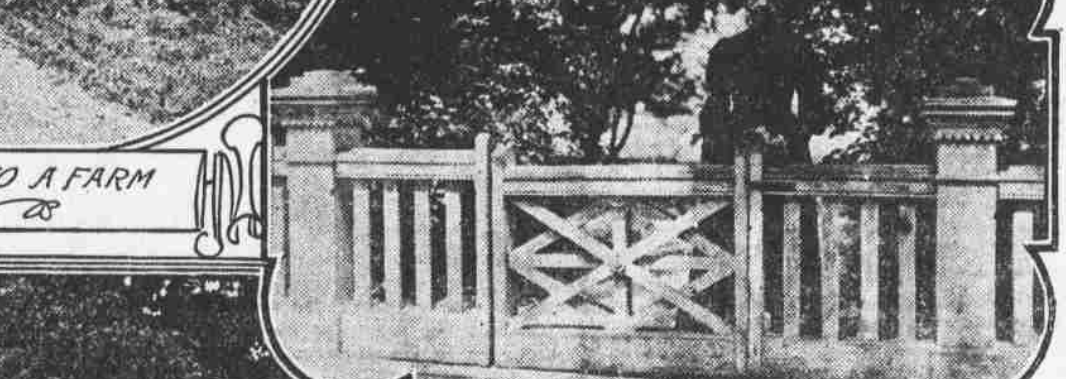
The appearance of the wire fence and particularly the barbed wire variety marked a new era in fence building in our rural districts. No body has ever contended that the average wire fence was anything very beautiful to look upon, but it has proven a boon to thousands of farmers in the



ORNATE IRON FENCE ON A RURAL ESTATE



LODGE AND GATEWAY OF A SOUTHERN PLANTATION



AN OLD-FASHIONED NEW ENGLAND FARM FENCE

west where timber was too scarce to be wasted on rail fences and where there were no stones to be cleared. The wire fence has proven an even greater boon to stock raisers, many of whom must needs fence large tracts and who are not disposed to quibble over cost if they can get a fence that can be put up quickly and will stand hard usage. Of course the dramatic incidents of "wire cutting" days in the cattle country proved that the wire fence was no easy to destroy as it was quick to build, but of course that turbulent condition is not one that has continued.

And while we are on the subject of the wire fence it may be noted that the regeneration of the wire fence has been one of the most marked features of the present era of more presentable farm fences. The treatment that has been accorded many of the old wire fences reminds one in its ingenious expedient for covering up old material with new—of the scheme now so frequently followed in coating old brick houses with a layer of stucco or concrete that gives them a pristine freshness. In some instances ivy, roses, or rapidly-growing vines of one kind or another have been planted at frequent intervals along a wire fence—say at each post—and in a surprisingly short time the fence becomes a trellis for a luxuriant growth that is bound to charm even the most fastidious person and one to whom a wire fence unadorned would prove a perfect eyesore. Another present day ruse for making the wire fence unobtrusive and yet retaining all its virtue as a boundary is to have the fence serve as a core for a hedge. The bushes, shrubs or other hedge-making vegetation may be planted on either or both sides (alternately) of the fence and in a few years the presence of wire strands and their supporting posts would be a complete surprise to a person who attempted to pass the barrier, so completely will they be hidden. Indeed, a close growing hedge reinforced by a wire fence has a twofold value as a preventive of trespass by man or beast and many persons of wide experience declare that it is the ideal form. The hedge may be permitted to grow to any height and there is, of course, no necessity for a farmer to keep such a hedge trimmed in symmetrical fashion as is done with those in the formal gardens to the rich.

The hedge, close-cropped, beautifully rounded

and with no wire fence concealed is seen much more frequently than formerly as one traverses the most traveled roads in America. Such hedges, however, usually bespeak the indulgence of some wealthy land holder who is willing to spend freely for the sake of appearances. The invasion of the country districts by this leisure class, retired men of means and so-called gentlemen farmers, has also resulted in the appearance of great numbers of stone and concrete walls. Of course such barriers, likewise the ivy-covered brick walls, are costly and particularly so when we take into account the massive gateways which have usually been provided in such connection. There is no doubt, however, that such walls add much, in the estimation of most persons, to the beauty of our rural landscapes. Indeed, it is the walls and hedges more than anything else which cause returned travelers to grow enthusiastic over rural England.

The iron fence has shared in the stimulated activity but the iron fence, unlike the stone wall, calls for a pretty heavy outlay, although if it is kept painted it will endure for so many years that it is rendered fairly reasonable in the long run. The picket fence, preferably painted white or white and green, continues to have many staunch friends among the farming class and the running board fence which is said to have originated in New England has spread to many other sections of the country and taken on a few frills suggestive of the designs of "barred pie." Rustic work when well done is always mighty effective in any rural surroundings and the picturesque appearance of the logs with the bark on is heightened by the introduction of some brightly-hued posts. Another latter day development is seen in the latitude now manifested in the height of the fences in the rural districts. A generation ago pretty much all the fences were about the same height. Nowadays they vary greatly. In some instances where the fence or hedge is purely ornamental its height is very much restricted whereas on the other hand it is not unusual to encounter a wealthy land owner whose desire for privacy has prompted him to erect—at least in the immediate vicinity of his dwelling—a wall so high that a man on horseback cannot see over it. A comparatively low stone wall surmounted by a high iron fence is another form of construction that has been introduced extensively.

HE KNEW.

Sometimes the proverbial "small brother" proves himself a remarkably well informed if tactless person. The brother of a certain confident dandy thus recently addressed a shy and shrinking suitor.

"Mr. Jones, are you going to marry Sister Ruth?"

Mr. Jones (blushing and disconcerted)—Why, sonnie, I—er—I really don't know, you know!

Small Brother (with a giggle)—That's what I thought. Well, you are!

Others Like It.

"Aviation never fails in one respect."

"What is that?"

"It makes money fly."

Its Nature.

"Money talks."

"Sure, and it talks cents."

COST OF LAST LEGISLATURE

STATE TREASURER CREAMER SAYS IT TOOK LESS THAN THE SESSION OF 1910.

TOTAL EXPENSE OF TERM \$303,997.65

Ohio Now the Second Auto State—Telephone Values May be Doubled—To Attack Two-Cent Fare.

Columbus.—According to figures compiled by State Treasurer Creamer of money actually paid out of the treasury for legislative expenses, this year's legislature cost a few thousand dollars less than the last session of the seventy-eighth general assembly, though the session lasted 21 days longer.

The per diem cost was \$2173.69 in 1910, and \$1936.52 in 1911. These figures, compared with figures for previous years, show a remarkable decline in the cost of conducting the legislature when compared with earlier years when finkies and porters were so numerous that they fell over each other. For instance, the session of 1909 cost an average of \$3454.74 per day while the one of 1906 cost \$3054.23.

Thus far the legislature has cost the state \$263,866.80, while unpaid bills outstanding aggregate in the neighborhood of \$12,000. A report made by Auditor Fullington the total expenses of the 1911 legislature were given as \$303,997.65.

This was pointed out as exceeding that of the year before.

Ohio Second Auto State. Ohio is second among the states in the Union in number of automobiles, according to State Registrar Shearer. In the report for licenses up to Oct. 1, the Buckeye state noted Pennsylvania out with a majority of 2000. New York leads, with upward of 80,000 licenses for the year. Ohio has 45,421, against 43,074 for Pennsylvania.

Values to be Doubled.

The story that never grows old was retold to the state tax commission by representatives of telephone companies, on which the commission is placing their values for purposes of taxation. The values probably will be doubled this year, inasmuch as the commission last year made large increases in these values and has a definite basis on which to work.

Arguments of increased expenses and hence depleted net revenues were recited by attorneys for the telephone companies. More than 650 are to be valued.

To Attack 2-Cent Fare.

From Chicago comes the word that Ohio's 2-cent fare law, which has been in force five years, is to be attacked in the federal courts by railroads connected with the Central Passenger Association, which has a large membership in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. It is declared, is to be made the basis of the attack.

It is in the Sanborn case that a committee of governors, of which Governor Harmon is a member, will file a brief in the supreme court setting out the rights of the states to control commerce exclusively within their borders.

The Method of Increasing Stock.

Columbus.—Before public service corporations may issue additional stock they must secure consent from the secretary of state under existing laws for increase of capital stock and then the public service commission will tell the corporations whether they may sell the stock. This is the method under which the public service commission will apply the sections regulating the issue of stocks and bonds in the new public utilities act. In case of bonds approval must be given before any can be sold.

Declaring they were already over-capitalized, the commission has refused its sanction to the issue of additional securities by one electric railway and other utility companies. The position taken is that there must be no water in securities and that every dollar of securities must be backed by 100 cents worth of property.

Tree Frauds Uncovered.

Warnings have been issued by the Ohio agricultural experiment station to beware of fraudulent agents for forestry stock. Year-old seedlings of locust and catalpa are being sold at \$20 to \$40 per 1000, whereas catalpa seedlings a year old, of 18 to 24-inch stock, are sold by reliable firms at \$4 to \$11 per 1000.

Misrepresentations have been made that the catalpa will gain post size in three years and pole size in six years. Planters are being sold 5000 trees for an acre, whereas a third of that number is sufficient. The state does not pay a bounty for planting the trees.

Grants Rate Rehearing.

A rehearing has been granted the New York Coal Company by the public service commission in its fight to secure lower rates from the Hocking Valley Railway Company.

It is alleged the coal rates are cheaper from the West Virginia fields than from the Hocking coal fields. The case was set for hearing Oct. 5.

Youngstown.—William B. Pellack, 80, head of a big foundry, may die from injuries received when hit by a train.

Shows Biggest Oil Business.

State Oil Inspector W. L. Finley has filed his report for the quarter ended Sept. 30 with the auditor of state, accompanying the same with a check for \$19,326.21, the net revenues of the department, July 1 to Sept. 30, 1911.

Newark.—John Jabot, a Syrian peddler, is held here on a charge of attempted criminal assault on Mrs. Carrie Pratt. She charges that Jabot attempted to gag her with a silk shawl he was exhibiting.

More Seek Jobs Than Places.

Columbus.—For every job available in the state, there are three job-seekers and before long there are likely to be four or five, according to the report of the state bureau of labor statistics covering the past quarter of 1911.

Labor Commissioner Fred Lange, who issued the report, says the demands for labor at the five free employment offices in the five largest cities of the state aggregated 7,731 for the three months, a decrease of 2,119 as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. The calls for male employment totaled 21,144, a slight increase over a year ago.

Commissioner Lange accredits the constantly growing disproportion of the demand for labor to the labor supply to the "unrest in the industrial world generally noticed before a national election."

The demand for unskilled labor, according to the report, totaled 5,417 calls and the demand for skilled labor 1,069 calls. For culinary service (hotel and private) there were 711 calls; for agricultural employment, 409 calls; and for stenographic and clerical positions, 91 calls. The demand for female help aggregated 5,744 calls, a decrease of 1,542 from the previous quarter. The total number of female applicants was 6,334.

To Test Workmen's Act.

Gov. Harmon has arranged for an immediate test of the constitutionality of the workmen's compensation act.

Daniel J. Ryan, attorney for the Ohio Manufacturers' association, explained that he favored the law, but was loath to advise his clients to begin operating under it if there was to be any come-back.

Attorney General Hogan was called in and it was arranged that State Auditor Fullington should refuse to honor a voucher for the board of awards, which administers the law. Mr. Hogan then will ask the supreme court to issue a writ of mandamus to compel Auditor Fullington to act. Mr. Hogan will defend the law. The test will secure a final decision before Jan. 1.

Mayor Faces Removal.

Independent of the statute for the removal of mayors, there is an Ohio law providing a \$300 fine or three months' imprisonment for the offense alleged against Mayor H. H. Hill of Milford. He is charged with having changed a bill of exceptions in a case appealed from his court and substituting false statements. Governor Harmon took no action on the removal petition.

The governor recognized the validity of the statute authorizing him to remove mayors when, in July, 1910, he summoned Mayor Herbert Atherton to hear charges against him after the Newark lynching. Atherton resigned before the date set for the hearing.

Before that charges were filed against Mayor A. H. Gorrill of Zanesville, but neither then nor since has the governor taken any action regarding them. They are simply on file.

Missionary Board Loses Suit.

By a decision of the supreme court the board of foreign missions of the Presbyterian church lost more than \$100,000. The case was that of the board versus Henry W. Bevan, as administrator of the estate of James Bevan, deceased.

James Bevan, at the time of his death, left two wills, one dated and signed, which left his entire estate to his wife, to become the property of his son at the wife's death, and another unsigned, in which he left practically the entire estate to the Presbyterian church. The son, in April, 1908, filed suit in the common pleas court of Delaware county to contest the will. He lost the first case, but the verdict was later set aside and a new trial held in which the son won, by alleging that the father, when he made the latest will, was of unsound mind. The board appealed the case to the circuit court, where it again lost. Another appeal was taken, this time to the supreme court, which held that the son was entitled to the estate.

Green Nine-hour Law Test.

To permit an early determination of whether or not the Green nine-hour law for women is constitutional, the court has allowed the application for leave to carry the test case involving the question from the common pleas court of Franklin county to the highest tribunal at once.

The case is that in which Anna Hawley, the proprietor of a local millinery store, refused to comply with the limitations of the law. She did so under an arrangement by which the arrest was technically made so that the question could be raised as to the validity of the act.

Judge Dillon of the common pleas court upheld the law, and the application for leave to carry the case to the supreme court, without having it reviewed by the circuit court, was made by Judge John M. Sheets, representing the plaintiff in error.

Fire Marshal After Fire Traps.

Have several thousand owners of structures ordered torn down by the state fire marshal's deputies obeyed the orders? This is the question which deputies from Marshal Zuber's office will solve beginning this week. So far demolition orders for more than 6,500 buildings have been issued. Compliance has been promised in substantially all cases.

It promises have not been made good, deputies will order the work done and the bills will be added to the taxes on the property.

Not One-Third Inspected.

The state has not yet inspected one-third of the cities of the state, and yet, if the value of the buildings ordered down were to be figured on an earnings basis, the value would be not far from \$2,000,000.

"We have found but few hovels for which the tenants pay less than \$7 a month. Often they pay that much for one-half of a shack," said Deputy Fishinger.

CANADA'S IMMENSE WHEAT FIELDS

THE ATTRACTION FOR THREE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILWAYS.

Last August there visited the Canadian west the vice-president of the largest individual hardware company in the United States. As his firm have a turnover of millions, and deals extensively with farm implements, this man took a deep interest in crop conditions in Canada, and on his return he embodied his findings in an article for the Hardware Reporter. This article should be of special interest to farmers.

The writer speaks of the importance of the spring wheat crop of Western Canada. He might also have spoken of the importance of the oat crop and also of the winter wheat crop, as well as barley. Winter wheat during the past few years has been a great success, and experiments have shown that it can be grown with success in almost any portion of the three provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. But apart from this, the spring wheat crop is the one generally grown, and all who know anything of grain, anyone who has had anything to do with markets, knows or has heard of the high character of this cereal and the splendid yields that are annually produced. Reproducing from this article:—

"In a land of such great sweep, and of such difference in soil and climate, there are many resources, but none are at present of the same overwhelming importance as the spring wheat crop. In the interminable prairie stretches of the northwest provinces it is the one absorbing topic of interest and of conversation during its growing and its harvesting, for upon its success or failure hangs the wealth or woe of a large part of the Dominion. Its influence extends far down into the United States, drawing thousands of farmers northwards with the lure of cheap lands, but likewise beyond the great lakes, even to the easy going maritime provinces calling the flower of their young men to its opportunities. Development in these prairie provinces goes on at high pressure for everything hangs on the outcome of spring wheat. Success has emboldened the raisers of this one all-important crop, and each year there is further incursion into those northern fields that only a short time ago were regarded as Arctic wastes. The Canadian Northwest seems to be one of those modern agricultural examples set forth to drive the final nail in the coffin of that ancient Malthusian delusion that population tends to outrun the means of subsistence, since the only fear now among Canadian economists is as to the danger of overstocking the wheat market. Only about two and one-half per cent of possible arable lands in the northwest provinces is now under cultivation, and this year the crop promises to be close to 200,000,000 bushels, so that your imagination and your arithmetic can easily supply the answer as to the possible or even probable outcome."

During the months of July and August the weather was unfavorable and the production of a 200 million yield of wheat will not likely be realized, but even with this, the threshing reports coming to hand show that the crop will be a splendidly paying one.

Literary Criticism.

They were discussing a certain authoress at dinner, and a well-known critic raised a laugh by remarking: "Well, her hair's red, even if her books are not."

The mild young man in the corner made a mental note of the sally future use, and at another party shortly afterward he carefully guided the conversation into literary channels. Tit-Bits informs its readers. Fortunately, some one mentioned the desired name, and he triumphantly cried out: "Well, she's got red hair, even if her books haven't!"

Chest Pains and Sprains

Sloan's Liniment is an excellent remedy for chest and throat affections. It quickly relieves congestion and inflammation. A few drops in water used as a gargle is antiseptic and healing.

Here's Proof

"I have used Sloan's Liniment for years and can testify to its wonderful efficiency. I have used it for sore throat, croup, lame back and rheumatism, and in every case it gave instant relief."

REBECCA JAYE ISAACS, Lucy, Kentucky.

SLOAN'S LINIMENT

is excellent for sprains and bruises. It stops the pain at once and reduces swelling very quickly.

Sold by all dealers.

Price, 25c., 50c., \$1.00



Sloan's Liniment on the Horse sent free. Address Dr. Earl S. Sloan, Boston, Mass.

Pettit's Eye Salve

W. N. U., CINCINNATI, NO. 44-1911.

Papa Crabbed the Game

There was an air of storm in the house. Papa, whose sole desire was to get out of his evening dress waistcoat, and change into something with an elastic back, was looking as fierce as though someone had asked him for a subscription. Mamma was in tears, and the two Miss Robinsons looked on more in sorrow than in anger.

young Franklin, who, if report speaks true, will one day lead the youngest Miss Robinson to the altar.

"Sh-sh!" was the reply.

"Dinner not up to the mark—eh?"

"Sh-sh!"

"One of those waiters trod on the old man's favorite?"

"No. But, oh, it's awful! You know, dear mamma had such trouble to get an invitation to this affair, and

she had built such hopes of getting really to know the best people in the town, as the outcome of having been to the dear countess' dinner party, and now papa has spoiled it all, and disgraced us forever."

"Good gracious! How?"

"Why, at the end of the dinner he had four knives, three forks and two spoons left! Isn't it awful!"

Its Nature.

"Money talks."

"Sure, and it talks cents."

Joys Forever.

Eddy looked up from his plate of griddlecakes with a knowing smile.

"I'll tell you why Norr's cakes are so good," he volunteered. "She's always singing when she's mixing, and the song gets into 'em!"—Youth's Companion.

Others Like It.

"Aviation never fails in one respect."

"What is that?"

"It makes money fly."